

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,674,245 to Massarotti. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Massarotti discloses a fuel injection device in which there is a first fuel injection member 13 upstream of a throttle valve 10 and a second fuel injection member 15 disposed downstream of the first fuel injection member 13 and the throttle valve 10. The Office Action asserts that element 23 is a first atomizing mechanism. Element 23 is located in the vicinity of the first fuel injection member 13. The Office Action asserts that element 22 is a second atomizing mechanism. Element 22 is located in the vicinity of the second fuel injection member 15.

In contrast, claims 1 and 3 relate to a fuel supply method (claim 1) and system (claim 3) for a fuel injection device with "a first atomizing mechanism surrounding the first fuel injection member, and an annular second fuel injection unit disposed radially outside the first atomizing mechanism, a second atomizing mechanism disposed radially outside the second fuel injection member, and an annular outer casing surrounding the second atomizing mechanism." Massarotti does not teach, disclose or suggest a fuel supply method or system for a fuel injection device comprised of multiple fuel injection members and associated atomizing mechanisms disposed in such a radial fashion or of such an annular shape.

For at least this reason, claims 1 and 3 are patentably distinct from the applied prior art. Further, the claims depending from claims 1 and 3 are also allowable for the reasons discussed, as well as the additional features recited therein (as acknowledged by the Office Action). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-5 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

J. Adam Neff
Registration No. 41,218

JAO:JAN/mdw

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: May 22, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--